

TRINITY TIDINGS

132 E. Main St. Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717-766-2662

trinityburgoffice@gmail.com



Abundance -- there it is!

Folks at Trinity who regularly stock our blessing box sometimes wonder how we can be more effective at putting enough food in the box at the right time, so that the people who really need food to fill their bellies have access. Unfortunately, some folks take advantage of people's generosity and instead of taking just what they need and leaving enough for someone else, they completely empty the box as soon as it's filled.

Today I decided to watch the box, putting a few things in at a time, to see what would happen. David put some things in the box in the morning, and a few hours later, I took out a few more things, including the fresh peach I had brought with me for lunch. To my surprise, a person had come while I wasn't paying attention, and had put food into the box. As I stood there, another woman, named Wendy, stopped her car, and brought a box of more things to add to the supply.

As I talked with Wendy, she expressed her frustration because one of the other churches in town needed to pause their blessing box ministry because of vandalism. Wendy was distraught and told me she hoped we would not do that, and that she would be bringing food more regularly in the future. Just when we may be tempted to look at the negative, thinking that too many people are "takers" instead of "givers," God sends a surprise of rich abundance.

Friends, when you pray and ask God to feed the hungry, you just may be the answer to that prayer. You just might be God's Wendy.

Blessings to you all,
Pastor Karen Durbin



September 2024



TRINITY
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ON MAIN
"Sharing God's Love"™



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Music Notes



So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone; in him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God. ~ Ephesians 2:19-22

“When We Are Gathered Here...”

There's a parking lot that sits mostly vacant except from mid May through late October. Then, every Thursday afternoon, the space comes alive with canopies and tables, homegrown produce, pasture-raised meat and eggs, homemade baked goods and all the delicious things one expects to find at a farmers market.

What's *most* striking about this transformation each week? ***The people.*** Customers, vendors, neighbors, friends, folks of all ages. Until the “community around local food” gathers, it's only a parking lot.

ELW 524 says something similar about church:

*“What is this place where we are meeting?
Only a house, the earth its floor.
Walls and a roof sheltering people,
windows for light, an open door.
Yet it becomes a body that lives
when we are gathered here,
and know our God is near.”*

If homegrown food can rally an entire community each Thursday - *and it does!* - consider how *our* gathered assembly, in worship, word and meal, is transformed in this holy space we call Trinity on Main. May we be refreshed and nurtured in Christ Jesus, our cornerstone, and strengthened to be a dwelling place for God in the world.



Bells and Choir
rehearsals begin
Wednesday, September 11

Christian Education Opportunities

Snax n Study:

Tapas are appetizers or snacks in Spanish cuisine that can be enjoyed singly or combined to make a full meal. We have been enjoying various interpretations of tapas and a variety of studies from week to week this summer.



Join us into September for classes on selected chapters from Walter Brueggeman's "Sabbath as Resistance, Saying NO to the CULTURE OF NOW" led by our Minister of Music, Melissa Jacoby

Chapters from "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" by Adam Hamilton such as:

Is there a God?

The Good Book? Wrestling with the Bible

Is Heaven Real?

When Prayers Go Unanswered

Why do the Innocent Suffer

Several Nooma video studies (Rob Bell)

And selected topics from "Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White" by Adam Hamilton, such as "The Ethics of Jesus," and "Spiritual Maturity and Seeing Gray" led by Pastor Karen.

LUNCH AND CONVERSATION

Pastor Karen met with several families with young children for lunch and conversation on June 30. After a simple meal together, Pastor met with the parents to brainstorm ideas for helping Trinity families incorporate worship and faith formation into family life. A great time of child-care, a craft, and singing were offered for the children by Melissa Jacoby, Koen Thomas, and Heather Zielonis.

A second Lunch and Conversation was held on Sunday, July 28 to continue talking about ideas and to include families who were not able to attend on June 30.

Those who came said that they value their Lutheran heritage at Trinity and want to raise their children in the faith and in this small close-knit community. They long for learning opportunities for their children, along with fellowship and Bible study for themselves.

We agreed to a trial period to try out some new ideas on the first Sundays of each month. This first trial was on August 4 and included child-care for part of the worship service. Please hold us in prayer as we seek to be faithful, try new paradigms, and figure some things out together.

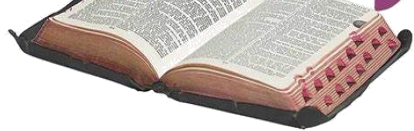
Pastor Karen

SYNOD NEWS

The Lower Susquehanna Synod has an on-line newsletter that provides information about what is going on around the SYNOD! Just go to the LSS website: <http://www.lss-elca.org/>

Christian Education Opportunities

Bible Study



continues Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm through August 21. You still have a few weeks to join us as we dig into the prayers and letters of our Sunday lessons. On August 14 our lessons for study are Psalm 34:9-14 and Ephesians 5:15-20. On August 21, our lessons for study are Psalm 34:15-22 and Ephesians 6:1-20.

After a few weeks off, Bible Study will continue in mid-September.

Welcome, New Members!

NEW MEMBERS AND BAPTISM

On August 4, we were delighted to welcome several new members and to witness God's grace poured out on Abigail Light as she received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. There was a wonderful New Member celebration at 9 am in Fellowship Hall for Larry Etchison and Elena San Antonio by affirmation of baptism, and Amy Boya, Phyllis and Richard Harmon, and Linda Vaughan by transfer of membership.

Check out the photos and welcome these new members to Trinity!

Watch for new member bios in the next Tidings!



Abby Light Baptism

New Members Celebration



What's Happening!

Watch for Pop-Up Lunches on the Lawn!

We have been enjoying several pop-up lunches on our lawn. People from Trinity and our neighborhood get to know one another a bit better as we pray and eat great lunches together.

The amount of people served so far has been:

June 27 - 11; July 11 - 17; July 25 - 11; August 1 - 12; August 8 - 9.

We are happy to be able to reach out and share our blessings with so many in our community!



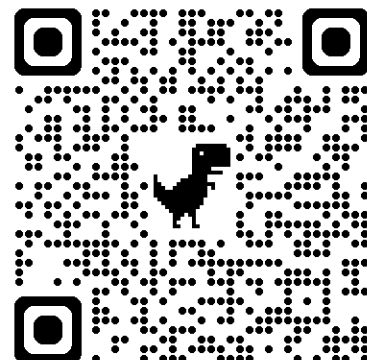
ART SHOW AT TRINITY!

Our art show will continue through September. We hope you are enjoying this gift to us from local artist Geoffrey Isley. Make sure to visit these remaining weeks of the show. Just call the office and make an appointment to come in and check out this beautiful exhibit.

The opening of "Remnants Rescued, Finding Beauty in the Discarded" was part of July's arts weekend. We had a great time with the Greater Harrisburg Concert Band on our lawn, Friday evening, July 19. We enjoyed hot dogs, chips, water and ice cream, compliments of a Thrivent Grant!

On Saturday, July 20, the art show began with an artist talk by Geoffrey Isley at 10 am, and music by Melissa Jacoby. We also heard from the artist during Snax n Study on Sunday, July 21.

If you missed all the info, check out our web page, <https://trinity-on-main.org/>



What's Happening!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

continues the fourth Thursday of each month, 8 am at [C.C.s Kitchen](#) on Main Street, Mechanicsburg. Join our men on August 22 and September 26.



Pastor Karen will be away August 26 – September 17

Emergency pastoral coverage will be provided by The Rev Ursula Schreffler (717) 432-1710. The Rev Elaine Dent is our supply pastor on September 1.

The Rev Dr. Angela Zimmann will be supply pastor on September 8 & 15.

Join us for our annual Outdoor Worship & Picnic, to be held on the lawn at Trinity Church. We will also be doing the Blessing of the Backpacks during the service that morning!

Sunday, August 18, 10:15 am



TRINITY
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ON MAIN
"Sharing God's Love"

Bring lawn chair or blanket, a side dish, salad or dessert to share!

**8 am
Worship
in the
sanctuary**

Outdoor Worship, Music & Picnic at Trinity Church

What's Happening!

Hanging the mounting system

Art Exhibit at Trinity Church

We have been honored the last few months at Trinity Church, to have the works of local artist, Geoff Isley, on display in the fellowship hall and adjacent Hallway. Here are a few pictures of the exhibit as it was being assembled... Thank you to Pastor Karen and David Durbin for purchasing the hanging system and to Eric Durbin for mounting the system into place!



Hanging the artwork!



Bringing the art into the building



Thank you!

Through the generosity of longtime Trinity member and long-serving church musician Robinette Butts and her family, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church had the opportunity to receive as a free gift the donation of Robinette's cherished baby grand piano. This gift blesses both Trinity and Robinette as she will have the opportunity to play her beloved instrument any time she desires."



What's Happening!

June was Baptism Month here at Trinity Church! We were blessed to celebrate with these four young families whose children received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.



June 2, 2024 - Michael and Megan Aldinger and their daughter, Natalie Kay Aldinger



June 9, 2024 - Matt Thomsen and their son, James Emmett Thomsen

What's Happening!

June Baptisms, cont'd...



June 9, 2024 - Justin and Barbara Donofrio and their son, Dominick William Donofrio



June 16, 2024 - Tyler and Morgan Anderson and their son, Levi Michael Wayne Anderson



What's Happening!

Arts Weekend 2024, July 19-21

We had a very enjoyable Arts Weekend in mid-July, starting on Friday evening with the Greater Harrisburg Concert Band who, as always, was magnificent. The event was well-attended and a great time was had by all!

Geoff Isley's art exhibit, "Remnants Rescued" officially opened on Saturday, July 20, and the artist gave a presentation on Sunday during Snax 'n Study.

It was a beautiful weekend, and we are so appreciative of all who came and shared in it with us!



**Concert
on the
Lawn**



**Geoff Isley presentation during
Snax 'n Study**



What's Coming Up?

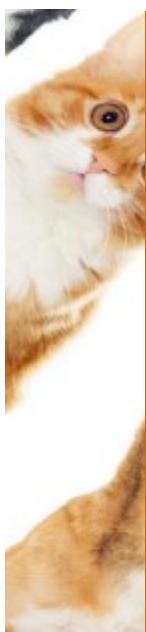
Blessing of the Animals

September 29 at 2 pm

Bring your pets to our Annual Blessing of the Animals. This event is scheduled to coincide with the Feast of St. Francis, typically held close to October 4. St Francis is the patron saint of animals and the environment in the Catholic Church. He is remembered for his generosity to the poor and remembered for his love for animals and nature.

Gather with us on the west lawn with your pets for a short liturgy, blessing, and a prayer card to take home. If it is difficult for your pet to attend, bring a photo along for your blessing.

This year, if it is possible for you, bring along a donation of new or gently used pet blanket or pet food for us to donate to a local animal shelter. Do you have a favorite one to suggest?



Community Meal

October 6 at 5 pm

Our next community meal will be held on the lawn at Trinity, Sunday, October 6, at 5 pm. You are welcome to attend and/or help. Watch for a sign-up link in our Friday emails closer to the event. Five churches from Mechanicsburg work together to offer these meals seasonally for our downtown neighbors. It is a great time of food, fellowship, and connection!



Reformation Homecoming 2024

All are invited to be with us for Reformation Homecoming 2024, on Sunday, October 27. Join us for worship at 8 am or 10:15 am and for our annual Reformation Potluck following 10:15 worship. We want to be sure to send out invitations to all our members and regular attendees, as well as those who have been connected to Trinity in the past; be it a child(ren), a sibling, or a friend.

Some folks may have moved away or now attend another church, and some are still in the area but are not coming regularly. If you know someone whose contact information may need updating, please send their name and address to the church office, Trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com, **Re: Members, regular attendees, neighbors and alumni.** We would like to have these names and addresses by August 31 so the Reformation flyers can be sent out to everyone. Thank you!

Church Council Highlights

- ♦ If anyone not currently a member of Trinity would like to consider joining the church, please see Pastor Karen at your earliest convenience.
- ♦ Jubilee Day is Thursday, June 20, and Trinity will once again rent out parking spaces, first-come, first-served. Thank you, Gene Champagne, for coordinating volunteers!
- ♦ Mark your calendars now and plan to join us on Reformation Sunday, October 27, for worship and a potluck lunch following! More details to come.

Community Outreach

Blessing Box

Thank you to all who help provide relief to our community neighbors with food donations. Many times, neighbors have expressed their thanks and appreciation for our food ministry and how much it helps them. Food donations may be placed on the table outside of fellowship hall.

Trinity's "Market On Main" is open for donations. If you have excess produce and wish to share with our neighbors, you are invited to place it on the stand beside the Blessing Box.

Items in short supply

Peanut Butter
Canned Meats
Canned Beans various varieties
Spaghetti Sauce
Boxes of Pasta
Knorr's bagged Pastas and Rices
Canned Potatoes
Cereal



*Bear one another's burdens
and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

Galatians 6:2



FREE
Adult Clothing
Saturday, Sept. 14
9-11am



Trinity's Closet on Main
132 E. Main St.
Mechanicsburg, PA

DID YOU KNOW that every month we provide a lunch for people to take home with them? If you would like to purchase supplies or help to make/pack the lunches, please be in touch with Heather Zielonis and let her know.



**Green
Beans
for
NHM!**

We will again this year be collecting cans of green beans for New Hope Ministries, to be distributed to local families for Thanksgiving. Bring what you can by Sunday, September 29 and place them on the table inside the front door. We met last year's goal of 205 cans, so let's see if we can get to this year's goal of

225!!

Birthdays, Etc.



8/2	Joyce Hafer
8/2	Wyatt Roy
8/3	Tom Shaw
8/3	Linda Vaughan
8/12	Pattie Sheaffer
8/13	Adam Hocker
8/15	Sam Reisinger
8/18	Brian Remmey
8/18	Sharon Stevens
8/22	Charlotte Lynch
8/22	Beverly Thomsen
8/25	Julie Jones
8/25	Anita Moats
8/27	Michael Peterson
8/28	Alice Metka
8/30	Jan Lynch
8/30	Nicholas Pappas



9/3	Jim Pensyl
9/3	Ryan Sechrist
9/8	Andrew Sheaffer
9/11	Katherine Williams
9/13	Dennis Burkhard
9/18	Megan Aldinger
9/21	Denise Burkhard
9/25	Cindy Wise
9/29	Tyler Hoffman

THANK YOU

Dear Trinity Church Friends,
Thank you for being here through my entire confirmation process.
- Preston Warner

Dear Members, Friends and Church Council,
Thank you very much for the friendly welcome and tasty reception on Confirmation Sunday. I'm grateful for all you have taught and shown me of God's love at work in the world.
Many blessings to you,
Koen Thomas

Blessing Box Volunteers:

We have so many wonderful volunteers here at Trinity Church, and this month we would like to give a special thank you to those who work with the Blessing Box each week: Carol and Bob Anderson David Durbin, Jim and Mary-Louise Smith, and Linda Vaughan. We appreciate the time and dedication you put into this very important community outreach!

Office Contact Info

Church & Staff Office Hours

Mon. – Thurs. 9 AM – 2 PM

(other hours as needed)

Phone: 717-766-2662

trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/TLCMech

<https://trinity-on-main.org/>

Pastor Contact Info

Pastor Karen Durbin

Email: pastorkjd@gmail.com

Minister of Music Contact Info

Melissa Jacoby

Email: trinitymburgmusic@gmail.com

Parish Administrator Contact Info

Debbie Schue

Email: trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com

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TIDINGS DEADLINE:

JUST A REMINDER that the deadline for newsletter items is the 10th of each month for the following month's issue.

Have a good month!

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship	2 Labor Day - Office closed	3	4	5 7 pm Church Council	6	7
Pastor Karen away.....						
8 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship	9	10	11 6:30 pm Bells Choir 715 pm Choir	12	13 4 pm Set up for Trinity's Closet on Main	14 9-11 am Clothing Closet
Pastor Karen away.....						
15 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship	16	17	18 6:30 pm Bells Choir 715 pm Choir	19	20	21
Pastor Karen away.....						
22 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am, Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship with Music	23	24	25 6:30 pm Bells Choir 715 pm Choir	26 8 am, Men's Breakfast	27	28
29 8 am Spoken Worship 10:15 am Worship with Music 2 pm Blessing of the Animals	30					